

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (Original) A method for strong access control to a network, the method comprising the following steps:

- (a) coupling an authentication device to a network;
- (b) transmitting an initial response;
- (c) generating a network response upon receipt of the initial response;
- (d) comparing the initial response and the network response;
- (e) authenticating the authentication device if the initial response and network response match, and not authenticating the authentication device if the initial response and network response do not match;
- (f) providing access to network resources upon authentication of the authentication device;
- (g) transmitting a subsequent response for accessing subsequent network resources;
- (h) comparing the subsequent response to a subsequent network response;
- (i) authenticating the authentication device if the subsequent response and subsequent network response match, and not authenticating the authentication device if the subsequent response

and subsequent network do not match; and

(j) providing access to subsequent network resources upon authentication of the authentication device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein access to network resources is determined by an access level assigned to the authentication device.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising:

(k) determining whether the authentication device is coupled to the network, if the authentication device is not coupled to the network then repeating steps (a) through (f) and if the device is coupled to the network then providing access to network resources upon authentication of the authentication device.

8. (Original) The claim 5 further comprising:

(l) repeating steps (g) through (j) for each subsequent response for accessing subsequent network resources.

9. (Original) A method for strong access control to a network, the method comprising the following steps:

- (a) coupling an authentication device to a network;
- (b) generating an access request for accessing network resources;
- (c) generating a challenge upon receipt of the access request;
- (d) generating an initial response upon receipt of the challenge;
- (e) generating an initial network response upon receipt of the initial response;
- (f) comparing the initial response and initial network response;
- (g) authenticating the authentication device if the initial response and initial network response match, and not authenticating the authentication device if the initial response and initial

network response do not match;

(h) providing limited access to network resources to the authentication device upon authentication of the authentication device;

(i) transmitting a subsequent access request for accessing subsequent network resources;

(j) generating a subsequent network response upon receipt of the subsequent access request;

(k) comparing the subsequent access request and subsequent network response;

(l) authenticating the authentication device if the subsequent access request and subsequent network response match, and not authenticating the authentication device if the subsequent access request and subsequent network response do not match; and

(m) providing limited access to subsequent network resources upon authentication of the authentication device.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein access to network resources is determined by an access level assigned to the authentication device.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising:

(k) determining whether the authentication device is coupled to the network, if the authentication device is not coupled to the network -then repeating steps (a) through (g) and if the device is coupled to the network then providing access to network resources upon authentication of the authentication device.

12. (Original) The claim 9 further comprising:

(l) repeating steps (j) through (m) for each subsequent response for accessing subsequent network resources.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the initial response and initial network response comprise an answer.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the subsequent access request comprises the answer.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the subsequent network response comprises the answer.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein each subsequent access request and each subsequent network response comprises the answer.